

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

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|-------------------------------|---|---------------------------|
| In re patent application of : | ) |                           |
| Pafford et al.                | ) | Examiner: Mary C. Hoffman |
|                               | ) |                           |
| Serial No. 10/749,822         | ) | Confirmation No. 9366     |
|                               | ) |                           |
| Filed: December 31, 2003      | ) | Group Art Unit: 3733      |
|                               | ) |                           |
| Title: Dynamic Spinal         | ) |                           |
| Stabilization System          | ) | December 29, 2008         |

**REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION**

Mail Stop AMENDMENT  
 Commissioner for Patents  
 P.O. Box 1450  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
 Sir:

Reconsideration of the present application is requested. This response is being filed within the initial two-month period after the mailing date of the Final Office Action (to and including December 29, 2008), so the modified extension of time practice applies. It is further believed that no extensions of time are currently required; however, if it is determined that an extension is necessary, Applicants request that the Commissioner grant such extension and deduct the associated fees from Deposit Account 13-0014.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically filed via the Electronic Filing System (EFS) of The United States Patent and Trademark Office on December 29, 2008  
 (Date of Deposit)

Michael D. Beck  
 Name of person filing Document or Fee

/Michael D. Beck  
 Signature

December 29, 2008  
 Date of Signature